

The library would in due course return the list, having marked the titles which it intended to acquire, while the balance could periodically be considered for purchase under the marginal stock scheme.

When in operation this should ensure at once an up-to-date coverage of all works, avoid unnecessary duplication, and ensure that copies are held where they will be of most use.

INTER-LIBRARY LOAN

During the three years since inter-library loan requests for books and periodicals whose location is unknown have been handled by the National Library Service, the number made available to libraries has steadily increased: 5,684 inter-loan cards were received during the year, compared with 3,029 for 1945–46 and 1,735 for 1944–45. The following table gives an analysis of the requests received for the year ending 31st March, 1947:—

Number of inter-loan cards received	5,684
Supplied from National Library Service	2,794
Supplied from other Wellington libraries	794
Supplied from Union Catalogue records	358
Supplied from Check-list of Serials	73
Items previously on <i>Book Resources</i>	42
Items held over for further checking	41
Items cancelled by requesting library	10
Rejected as outside scope of inter-loan	103
Referred back for further information	104
Listed on <i>Book Resources</i>	1,365
	5,684
Total number of items appearing on <i>Book Resources</i> ..	1,824
Inter-loan requests listed on <i>Book Resources</i>	1,365
Items referred back and reported missing, later listed on <i>Book Resources</i>	127
Items requested by Country Library Service	332
	1,824
Items located through <i>Book Resources</i>	619

UNION CATALOGUE

Eighteen thousand cards, representing the accessions of the country's major libraries, were added to the Union Catalogue during the year. Discussion on the future of the Catalogue by members of the New Zealand Library Association has centred on the place of the Catalogue in the regional library system and has stressed the desirability of excluding the holdings of semi-popular general literature if it is practicable to do so.

CENTRAL BUREAU FOR LIBRARY BOOK IMPORTS

From 1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947, 65 recommendations for special licence to the value of £5,645 (New Zealand currency) were made covering books and periodicals. In addition, block licences totalling £19,401 were granted to one special library, four city, and two University libraries.